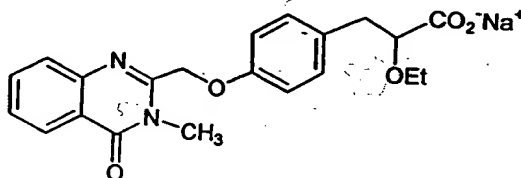


In the claims

Please cancel claims 14-23 and 53-64,

Please add the following claims:

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77. (±)-Sodium 2-ethoxy-3-[4-[[3-methyl-4-oxo-3,4-dihydro-2-quinazolinyl]methoxy]phenyl]propanoate



78. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises the compound of claim 77 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or solvate.

79. The pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 78, in the form of a tablet, capsule, powder, syrup, solution or suspension.

80. A method of preventing or treating hyperlipemia, hypercholesteremia, hyperglycemia, osteoporosis, obesity, glucose intolerance, leptin resistance, insulin resistance, or a disease in which insulin resistance is the underlying pathophysiological mechanism comprising administering a compound as defined in claim 77 to a patient in need thereof.

81. A method according to claim 80, wherein the disease is type II diabetes, impaired glucose tolerance, dyslipidaemia, disorders related to Syndrome X such as hypertension, obesity, atherosclerosis, hyperlipidemia, coronary artery disease and other cardiovascular disorders, certain renal diseases including glomerulonephritis, glomerulosclerosis, nephrotic syndrome, hypertensive nephrosclerosis, retinopathy, nephropathy, disorders related to endothelial cell activation, psoriasis, polycystic ovarian syndrome (PCOS), useful as aldose

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reductase inhibitors, for improving cognitive functions in dementia and treating diabetic complications, osteoporosis, inflammatory bowel diseases, myotonic dystrophy, pancreatitis, arteriosclerosis, xanthoma or cancer.

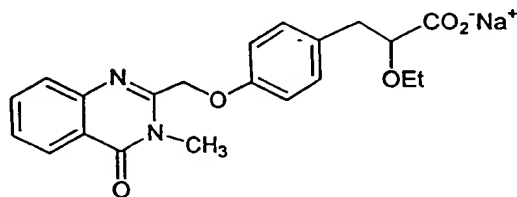
82. A method of reducing plasma glucose, triglycerides, total cholesterol, LDL, VLDL and free fatty acids in the plasma comprising administering an effective amount of compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 77, to a patient in need thereof.

83. A method of preventing or treating hyperlipemia, hypercholesteremia, hyperglycemia, osteoporosis, obesity, glucose intolerance, leptin resistance, insulin resistance, or diseases in which insulin resistance is the underlying pathophysiological mechanism comprising administering a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 77, in combination/concomittant with HMG CoA reductase inhibitors, fibrates, nicotinic acid, cholestyramine, colestipol or probucol which may be administered together or within such a period as to act synergistically together to a patient in need thereof.

84. A method according to claim 83, wherein the disease is type II diabetes, impaired glucose tolerance, dyslipidaemia, disorders related to Syndrome X such as hypertension, obesity, atherosclerosis, hyperlipidaemia, coronary artery disease and other cardiovascular disorders, certain renal diseases including glomerulonephritis, glomerulosclerosis, nephrotic syndrome, hypertensive nephrosclerosis, retinopathy, nephropathy, disorders related to endothelial cell activation, psoriasis, polycystic ovarian syndrome (PCOS), useful as aldose reductase inhibitors, for improving cognitive functions in dementia and treating diabetic complications, osteoporosis, inflammatory bowel diseases, myotonic dystrophy, pancreatitis, arteriosclerosis, xanthoma or cancer.

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85. A method according to claim 84, for the treatment of prophylaxis of disorders related to Syndrome X, which comprises administering a compound of the formula,



in combination HMG CoA reductase inhibitors, fibrates, nicotinic acid, cholestyramine, colestipol or probucol which may be administered together or within such a period as to act synergistically together.

86. A method of reducing plasma glucose, triglycerides, total cholesterol, LDL, VLDL and free fatty acids in the plasma, which comprises administering a compound of formula (I) claimed in claim 77, in combination/concomittant with HMG CoA reductase inhibitors or nicotinic acid or cholestyramine or colestipol or probucol which may be administered together or within such a period as to act synergistically together to a patient in need thereof.